GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
COMMUNICATIONS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY
LOK SABHA

STARRED QUESTION NO:222
ANSWERED ON:15.12.2008
OUTSTANDING DUES OF MTNL/BSNL
Barman Shri Ranen;Sidhu Shri Navjot Singh

Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY be pleased to state:

(a) whether several Union and State Government offices and other subscribers owe sizeable dues to Mahanagar Telephone Nigam Limited (MTNL) and Bharat Sanchar Nigam Limited (BSNL);

(b) if so, the details thereof indicating the total amount yet to be recovered; and

(c) the steps taken/being taken by MTNL and BSNL to recover the amount from the said organisations within a stipulated time?

Answer

THE MINISTER OF COMMUNICATIONS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY (SHRI A. RAJA)

(a) to (c) A Statement is laid on the Table of the House.

STATEMENT TO BE LAID ON THE TABLE OF THE LOK SABHA IN RESPECT OF PARTS (a) TO (c) OF THE LOK SABHA STARRED QUESTION NO. 222 FOR 15TH DECEMBER, 2008 REGARDING "OUTSTANDING DUES OF MTNL/ BSNL".

(a) & (b) Yes Gross outstanding dues of MTNL & BSNL are only a small percentage (about 1.5% for MTNL and 2% for BSNL) of the total bills raised so far.

The details of outstanding dues, as on 30.9.08, owed by Union & State Government offices and other subscribers to Mahanagar Telephone Nigam Limited (MTNL)and Bharat Sanchar Nigam Limited (BSNL) are as follows:-

MTNL Outstanding Details (Amount in Crores of Rs)

Central Govt.	State Govts.	Defence	Private	Total
14.12	2.57	3.03	1171.37	1191.09

BSNL Outstanding Details (Amount in Crores of Rs)

Central Govt.	State Govts.	Defence	Private	Total
98.81	171.83	40.11	4993.83	5304.58

(c) The steps taken/being taken by MTNL & BSNL to recover the amount from the subscribers are broadly as follows:-

(i) The subscribers are reminded telephonically, followed by written notices.

(ii) Regular monitoring of outstanding dues is done at unit/sub-unit levels.

(iii) Private recovery agents are employed for making recoveries.

(iv) Where necessary, suits are also filed in the courts to effect recovery of outstanding dues.

(v) Various schemes, including discounts, are launched from time to time to recover the outstanding dues.

(vi) MTNL is implementing Revenue Assurance program and Convergent billing system for enhanced Revenue realization.

(vii) BSNL has requested various State Governments for amendment of Land Revenue Act, so that outstanding dues of BSNL can be treated by the State as land revenue and State Government's help can be taken in realizing BSNL's dues.